

Appl. No. 10/801028
Amdt. Dated 2-04-06
Reply to Office Action of 11-04-05

Amendments to the Claims

The current listing of claims replaces all previous versions of the claims.

Listing of Claims

1. (currently amended) A transportable device removably connectable to a spool of cable, said device comprising:

a stationary handle including a central portion positionable within a hand of a user;

a movable handle disposed below said stationary handle and being selectively movable along a substantially vertical path between raised and lowered positions, said movable handle cooperating with said stationary handle during operating conditions;

a housing ~~positionable into~~positioned inside a spool opening and being secured to said stationary handle, said housing including a plurality of pistons slidably mounted therein and having a plurality of spaced apertures formed about said plurality of pistons, said housing further including an elongated fastening member secured to said plurality of pistons and to said movable handle; and

a plurality of latching members pivotally connected to said plurality of pistons respectively and being movable between retracted and extended positions through said plurality of apertures as said movable handle is lowered and raised respectively, said plurality of pistons for engaging a select portion within a spool opening and thereby allowing an operator to lift a spool and transport same while said movable handle is maintained at a raised position, said plurality of latching members being disengageable from a spool when said movable handle is released to a lowered position;

wherein said stationary handle has a downwardly converging bottom surface forming a stop against which said movable handle is directly abutted when said movable handle is adapted to the lowered position so that said movable handle is prohibited from moving below said bottom surface of said stationary handle;

wherein one of said pistons is seated within said lower section and another of said pistons is seated within said uppers section;

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wherein each of said latching members has a longitudinal length substantially equal to a thickness of said pistons respectively.

2. (currently amended) The device of claim 1, wherein said housing further comprises:

an upper section and a lower section integral therewith, said upper and lower sections each having a predetermined diameter, said upper section having a tapered bottom edge directly conjoined with a top edge of said lower section, said predetermined diameter of said upper section being greater than said predetermined diameter of said lower section.

3. (original) The device of claimed 1, wherein a first set of said plurality of latching members are diametrically spaced approximately 120 degrees apart.

4. (original) The device of claim 3, wherein a second set of said plurality of latching members are diametrically spaced approximately 120 degrees apart, said second set of latching members being disposed below said first set of latching members and for cooperating therewith to maintain said device securely engaged with a spool of cable.

5. (original) The device of claim 1, wherein said fastening member is threadably engaged with said plurality of pistons and is disposed substantially medially thereof.

6. (original) The device of claim 1, wherein said stationary handle has a plurality of substantially vertical grooves formed therein and for guiding said movable handle therealong.

Please cancel claims 7 – 15.